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THE TALAMANCAN TRIBES OF COSTA RICA

19. *dikúswa*[201] (*Bribri*)

1. To cure, to sing for the first [time]. *sibu* sent *dikúswa* for the first [time] to cure to sing. In the [following] morning, *sibu* asked *dikúswa*, "Will I die?"

2. *dikúswa* answered, "No you will not die. You pretend thus.[202] You will never die." (*2*) Because of this *sibu* left *dikúswa* to cure us.

## Lay Songs

20. Song for the Dance of the Monkey (*Bribri*)

1. See Linguistic Text.

2. Turtle, turtle pool, turtle pool, devil pool, bad pool,
Someone passed me.
Dance [of *kúswa*], dance [of *kúswa*].

3. *See* Linguistic Text.

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19. dikúswa

1. ętsą kųLę́[203] i-tsúk. sibu-tə dikúswa[204] patkęmį ętsą kųLę́-i-tsúk. buLáme-tą, sibu-tə dikúswa ichake, "šu-ruówami?"

2. dikúswa-tə iųté, "ké bu-ruókua. be-ęə emę. ké be-ruókwą šųtę.[205] (*2*) é-kuegį sibu-tə dikúswa[206] meąt-sé buąúnmeLe.

20. buLtakuLe[207]

1. kəəgęə[208] kəagsé jaegəange[209] kəanjé jaegəgəg.
kəanjé egəange kəanjé.

2. ta-kuea,[210] kuen-dí,[211] ta-kuen-dí, Ląn[212]-dí,
ta-soLoLa soLəri,
ta-dəə-donchi.
ję́[213]-iberke ikəcą́, ję́-iberke ję́n.

3. kəanjejeé[214] jekəə jóeé.

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[755] [552] [778] [197] [172]

[201] This is the medicine man's song against sickness. [202] I.e., that you are sick.
[203] *kųLę́* means to *sing and* to cure with a stone. All curing songs use *kųLę́*.
[204] Although this is the sacred stone's name, here it applies to a bird. In the beginning, the bird was the messenger to *sibu* and then became the stone. This should not be confused with the cuyeo.
[205] This also means "nothing."
[206] The connotation is that the bird, *dikúswa*, has been changed to the stone, *dikúswa*.
[207] The language is a mixture of ancient Térraba, Cabécar, and some Bribri. It is sung as men and women dance in a line.
[208] Words in section 1 could not be translated and are said to be ancient Térraba.
[209] This is the name of an abandoned Bribri site in Talamanca.
[210] *ta-* is used as a prefix only for the sound.
[211] These three words together signify a pool with a turtle. [212] *See* Theological Beliefs.
[213] *ję́* and *ję́n* are for sound only. The word combination signifies the dance of *kúswa*.
[214] These sounds signify adornments.